

Amended
scanning heat treatment process on the workpiece in a continuous and longitudinal manner from one end to the other.

Add new Claims 15 through 16 as follows:

A2
15. The method defined in Claim 1 wherein said step (a) is performed by providing a workpiece formed from aluminum.

16. The method defined in Claim 1 wherein said step (a) is performed by providing a workpiece formed from an aluminum alloy.

REMARKS

In view of the amendments, it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, an early Notice Of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard S. MacMillan
Reg. No. 30,085

MacMillan, Sobanski & Todd, LLC
One Maritime Plaza, Fourth Floor
720 Water Street
Toledo, Ohio 43604
(419) 255-5900

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